

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are pending in the present application. Applicants have amended Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 18, 21, 24 and 31. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

It is initially noted by Applicants that no statutory basis for rejection has been given for Claims 5-20, even though such claims are alluded to in the comments section of the Office Action and are indicated as being rejected on the Office Action Summary sheet. Further clarification is requested as to the status of such claims.

I. 35 U.S.C. § 102, Anticipation

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-3 and 22-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Hagiuda et al. (6,182,225). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have amended Claim 1 to include features previously recited in Claim 5. As amended, Claim 1 recites "identifying a plurality of resources that are part of a group of resources by retrieving a user password profile in which groups of resources are identified along with corresponding password information". In commenting on Claim 5 (whose features are now a part of amended Claim 1), the Examiner states that Hagiuda teaches the claimed user password profile feature at col. 38, lines 54-67 and col. 39, lines 1-3. Applicants urge that this Hagiuda passage generally describes two things. First, this cited passage lists four prerequisite conditions that must be satisfied in order to display a Device Password Entry Dialogue Box as shown in FIG. 50. None of these four prerequisite conditions teach or otherwise describe retrieval of a user password profile. Second, this cited passage states that the Device Password Entry Dialog Box is for entry by the user of the device password when the device window has been opened, and after such entry a registration of the device selected by the user is performed onto the manager information table of the device. Assuming that the Examiner is equating this manager information table of the device with the claimed feature of retrieving a user password file (as originally recited in Claim 5 and now included in amended Claim 1), Applicants urge that such user password profile is defined by Claim 1 as identifying both (i) groups of resources and (2) password information to these groups of resources. The cited reference does not teach or otherwise suggest such user password profile, and thus it is urged that the rejection of Claim 1 has been successfully traversed by the present amendment to Claim 1.

Applicants initially traverse the rejection of Claims 2 and 3 for reasons given above with respect to Claim 1 (of which Claims 2 and 3 depend upon).

Further with respect to Claim 2, it is urged that the cited reference does not teach the claimed feature of "wherein the first password and the second password are the same", the first password and second password being passwords for the first and second resources, respectively, in the group of resources. In rejecting Claim 1, the Examiner cites Hagiuda's teaching at col. 15, lines 15-20 as teaching the claimed group of resources. There, Hagiuda describes displaying a list of all devices connected to a network. Thus, the Examiner appears to be equating all the devices connected to a network as being the claimed 'group of resources'. However, in rejecting Claim 2, the Examiner cites Hagiuda's teaching at col. 19, lines 37-52 and FIG. 151 as teaching the feature recited in Claim 2 pertaining to passwords for resources in the group. It is urged that this cited passage used in rejecting Claim 2 describes using the Netspot application program password for the device password. Netspot is network management software (col. 16, lines 2-3), and is not a device connected to the network. Thus, since the Examiner is equating the devices connected to the network as being the 'group of resources' (per the Claim 1 rejection), it is urged that a teaching of using a password of a network management software program (which is not a device connected to the network, and thus is not a resource in the 'group of resources') as a device password does not teach updating the passwords of two resources which are both part of the 'group of resources' to be the same. Therefore, as every element of the claimed invention is not identically shown in a single reference, it is urged that Claim 2 is not anticipated by the cited reference.

Further with respect to Claim 3, it is urged that the cited reference does not teach the claimed feature of "wherein updating a second password for a second resource in the group of resources includes updating passwords for each of the resources in the group of resources to be the same as the first password". As can be seen, this claim is directed to updating passwords for *each* of the resources in the group of resources, where the passwords are updated to be the same as the first password (that was updated for the first resource in the group of resources). In rejecting Claim 3, the Examiner cites Hagiuda's teaching at col. 19, lines 37-52 and FIGS. 137 and 151 as teaching this claimed feature. As to the Hagiuda passage cited at col. 19, it is urged that this passage merely describes that a device password can be updated, but does *not* teach or otherwise suggest that passwords for *each* of the resources in the group of resources are updated

to be the *same* as the first password – but rather merely states that a password can be set. As to the cited FIG. 137 of Hagiuda, Applicants urge that this figure merely shows a dialogue box where a user can manually set a device password, either to an arbitrarily assigned value (in the New Password entry field), or to be the same as the NetSpot password (by checking the box). In effect, this figure merely shows a window that allows for a password to be changed. It does not teach or otherwise suggest the actual *updating of passwords for each of the resources in the group*. Thus, this FIG. 137 does not overcome the teaching deficiencies identified above with respect to the cited passage at column 19, lines 37-52. As to the cited FIG. 151 of Hagiuda, this only shows the updating of a single password, and does not teach or otherwise suggest the claimed step of *updating passwords for each of the resources in the group of resources* to be the same as the first password. In addition, and for similar reasons to those given above with respect to Claim 2, using the same password for a device as used by the Netspot software program does not teach or otherwise suggest updating passwords for all resources in a group of resources to be the same as the Netspot application is not a resource in the group of resources.

With respect to Claim 22, Applicants traverse such rejection for similar reasons to those given above with respect to Claim 1 (which was amended to include features substantially the same as the features of Claim 22).

With respect to Claim 23, it is urged that the cited reference does not teach the claimed features of “instructions for receiving selections from the user for grouping various ones of the resources into groups of resources; and instructions for storing the groups of resources in a user password profile”. In rejecting Claim 23, the Examiner cites Hagiuda’s teaching at column 38, lines 54-67, column 39, lines 1-3 and FIG.1 as teaching these claimed features. Applicants urge that the passage cited beginning at column 38 and extending to column 39 generally describes two things. First, this cited passage lists four prerequisite conditions that must be satisfied in order to display a Device Password Entry Dialogue Box as shown in FIG. 50. None of these four prerequisite conditions teach or otherwise describe receiving selections from a user for *grouping various ones of the resources into groups of resources*. Second, this cited passage states that the Device Password Entry Dialog Box is for entry by the user of the device password when the device window has been opened, and after such entry a registration of the device selected by the user is performed onto the manager information table of the device. Again, this ability to update a password for a device does not teach or otherwise describe receiving selections from a user for

grouping various ones of the resources into groups of resources. As to Hagiuda's FIG. 1, this figure does not describe, show or depict any type of operational steps (but rather shows a high-level hardware architecture), and thus this FIG. 1 does not teach or otherwise describe any type of user grouping of resources into groups of resources and storing these groups of resources in a user password file. Thus, it is urged that Claim 23 is not anticipated by the cited reference, as every element of the claimed invention recited therein is not identically shown in a single reference.

With respect to Claim 24, Applicants initially traverse for reasons given above with respect to Claim 23 (of which Claim 24 depends upon).

Further with respect to Claim 24, it is urged that the cited reference does not teach the claimed feature of "wherein the instructions for providing the user with a listing of resources include instructions for providing the user with a display that indicates which of the resources may be grouped together". As can be seen, this claimed feature is directed to improved usability by the user, in that the user is provided with a display that indicates *which* of the resources *may be grouped together*. This is desirable, and thus improves user usability, in that not all resources may be capable of being grouped together (Specification page 10, lines 12-31), and thus an indication of which resources may be grouped together greatly aids the user in such grouping. In rejecting Claim 24, the Examiner cites Hagiuda's teaching at FIG. 31 and col. 77, lines 53-67 and col. 78, lines 1-4 as teaching this claimed feature. With respect to Hagiuda's FIG. 31, Applicants urge that such figure merely depicts that all devices may be displayed, but provides no indication as to allowable groupings of devices. Applicants have amended Claim 24 to further clarify this distinction. As to the Hagiuda teachings beginning at col. 77 and extending to col. 78, such passage describes how a user can change a password for a given device, and does not provide any type of indication as to allowable groupings of devices. It is thus urged that amended Claim 24 is not anticipated by the cited reference.

With respect to Claim 25, Applicants traverse for reasons given above with respect to Claim 23 (of which Claim 25 depends upon).

With respect to Claim 26, Applicants initially traverse for reasons given above with respect to Claim 23 (of which Claim 26 depends upon).

Still further with respect to Claim 26, it is urged that the cited reference does not teach the claimed feature of "instructions for storing a password in association with each of the groups of

resources, wherein the password is used with each of the resources in a corresponding group of resources". As can be seen, this claimed feature is directed to the storing of a password in association with each of the groups of resources, and this password is used with each of the resources in a corresponding group of resources. In effect, a global group password is shared by each of the resources in a given group. In rejecting Claim 26, the Examiner cites Hagiuda's teaching at col. 38, lines 55-67 and col. 39, lines 1-3 as teaching this claimed feature – which is the same passage cited in rejecting Claim 23. Applicants respectfully submit that this passage describes an ability to update a password for a single device, and does not teach or otherwise suggest a password that is stored in association with each of the groups, for use with each resource in a corresponding group. Thus, it is further urged the Claim 26 is not anticipated by the cited reference.

With respect to Claim 30, it is urged that the cited reference does not teach the claimed feature of "wherein the group of resources is a group of resources each of which use the same password to authenticate a user's access to the resource". In rejecting Claim 30, the Examiner cites Hagiuda's teaching at col. 38, lines 55-67 and col. 39, lines 1-3 as teaching this claimed feature. Applicants urge that this passage merely describes an ability to update a password for a single device, and does not teach or otherwise suggest any group of resources, or a group of resources which use the same password to authenticate a user's access to a resource. Thus, it is further urged the Claim 30 is not anticipated by the cited reference.

With respect to Claim 31, Applicants have amended such claim and traverse such rejection for similar reasons to those given above with respect to Claim 30.

With respect to Claim 32, it is urged that the cited reference does not teach the claimed features of "identifying a plurality of resources that may be grouped together according to security parameters associated with the plurality of resources" and "receiving a selection of two or more of the plurality of resources to be grouped together in a family or resources". As can be seen, this claim is directed to identifying a plurality of resources that may be grouped together, and this identification of allowable groupings is based upon security parameters associated with the plurality of resources. In rejecting Claim 32, the Examiner does not provide any citation to any teaching in the cited reference of where this identification of allowable groupings is taught. Rather, the Examiner merely alleges that the cited reference teaches "identifying a plurality of resources that are part of a group of resources", which is an identification with respect to a

current group. In contrast, Claim 32 is not directed to a current group, but rather to an identification of an *allowable* grouping, and this allowable grouping is identified according to *security parameters*. Thus, it is urged that Claim 32 is not anticipated by the cited as every element of the claimed invention is not identically shown in a single reference.

Therefore, the rejection of Claims 1-3 and 22-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 has been overcome.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 103, Obviousness

The Examiner rejected Claims 4 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Hagiuda et al. (6,182,225). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants initially traverse the rejection of Claim 4 for similar reasons to those given above with respect to missing claimed features of Claim 1.

Further with respect to Claim 4 (and similarly for Claim 21), Applicants have amended such claim to recite that both passwords are updated in response to the expiration of the first password. The cited reference does not teach or otherwise suggest this claimed feature. Although a device may be capable of being modified to run the way [the patent applicant's] apparatus is claimed, there must be a suggestion or motivation *in the reference* to do so. *In re Mills*, 916 F.2d 680, 16 USPQ2d 1430 (Fed. Cir. 1990). There is simply no suggestion or other motivation in the cited reference to modify the teachings contained therein in accordance with this claimed feature, and thus it is further urged that Claim 4 (and similarly for Claim 21) is not obvious in view of the cited reference.

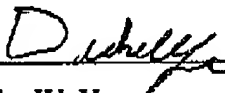
Therefore, the rejection of Claims 4 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 has been overcome.

III. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over the cited reference and is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

DATE: December 22, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



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